REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

The Office Action at page 1, states that claims 7, 9, 10 and 19-22 are allowed and claims 1-6 and 11-18 are objected to.

Claim 1 has been amended as shown above to correct claim grammar, as suggested by the Examiner.

Claims 10 and 12 have been amended to make the preamble consistent with the other claims.

Claim 11 has been amended to correct the recited base claim, as suggested by the Examiner.

Claims 13 and 17 have been amended to delete an extraneous period, as suggested by the Examiner.

Claims 23 and 24 have been added, respectively based upon claims 11 and 12.

No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-7 and 9-24 are pending in this application. Previously withdrawn claims 1-6 and 13-16 have apparently been rejoined to this application. Claims 1, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 17 have been amended. Claims 23 and 24 have been added.

In response to the objections to the claims, set forth at page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1, 11, 13 and 17 have been amended as shown above to overcome the objections. The applicants accordingly ask that the objections be withdrawn.

OKETANI et al. – Appln. No. 10/084,888 This Amendment filed October 14, 2004

In view of the above and there being no other objections or rejections, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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